

Survey Report:

Millinocket Annual Survey 2019

March 10, 2020

Introduction

A survey was created by the Town of Millinocket Economic Development Committee to gain insight on several viewpoints toward the town from its residents, seasonal-residents, business owners, and visitors. This is the third version of this survey. Prior year survey reports are available on the town website under Economic Development. Having perspective on different aspects of economic development gives the governing body some tangible evidence in public opinion and how the town should guide its redevelopment.

Method

This version of the survey contains some questions from the prior year to gather baseline data, as well as some new material. Questions suggested for this version were gathered and finalized by the economic development committee. A survey draft was created and was presented to the economic development committee. A final survey was created and distributed using two formats. Paper copies of the survey were distributed to three locations in the town: Millinocket Memorial Library, Millinocket Town Office, and Our Katahdin Community and Economic Development Firm. A digital version of the survey was provided on the Town of Millinocket website in form format.* All of the digital and paper surveys were collated in a database where information could then be analyzed.**

Parameters

The survey consists of four major data groups. A demographics section defining the personal characteristics of age, education, years lived/visited, and residency, a closed response section consisting of scaled responses, an open response section with specific questions, and a general response section acting as an open forum to the Town of Millinocket.

*Survey submissions were active from November 23, 2019 to a closing date of December 31, 2019.

**An appendix to this document contains the finalized draft of the survey and data used to analyze survey findings with personal information concealed.

Analysis

Survey findings and analyses are up to the interpretation of the reviewer. This public report can be viewed by several different agencies whether it be personal, business, or governmental. An analysis of data will be presented in each section of information gathered from the survey and will be under initial review of the economic development committee. All information gathered in the summary findings are a direct reflection of the information gathered in the database used for analysis. All data used to compile analyses will be attached as an appendix to the document for transparency. You are able to make your own inferences based on this method of reporting.

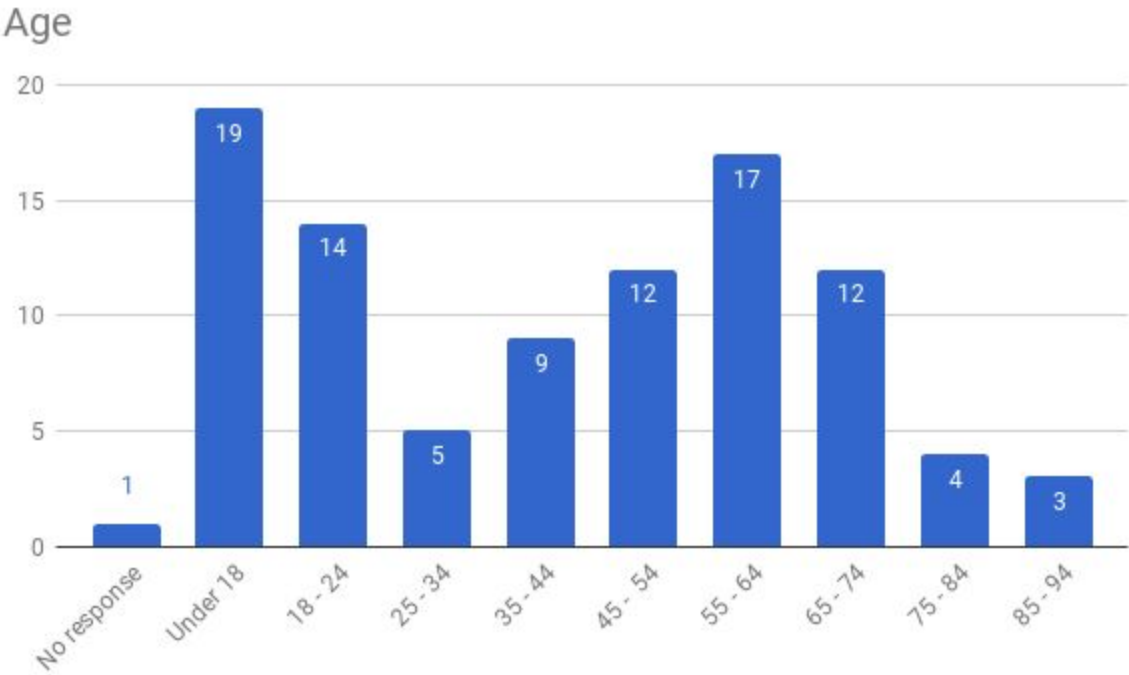
Waiver of Liability

Before a participant could take this survey, they had to read a letter of intent of the survey which consisted as the cover page. This letter includes a summary statement, indication of participation, indication of potential benefits, indication of potential risks, a statement of confidentiality, contact information, and submission directions. All data used to compile this report was contributed voluntarily thus effectively removing any liability from any representative of the town which has been involved in the creation of the survey or report.

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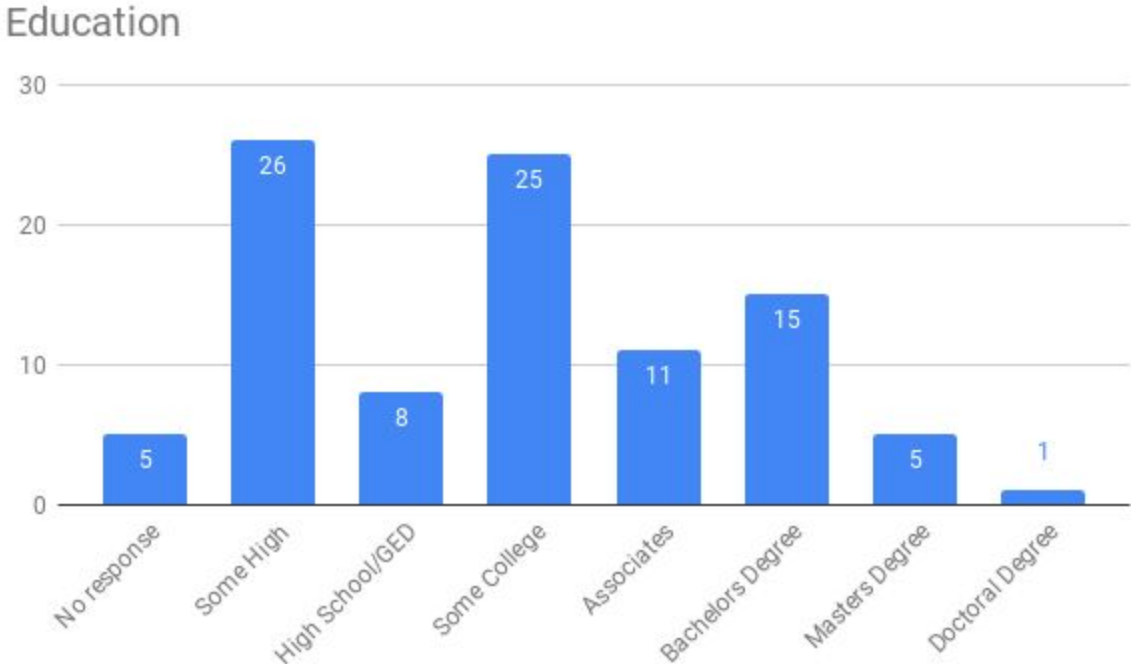
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Demographics - Age



The survey sample is an accurate representation of our current population demographics for not only Millinocket, but the Katahdin region as a whole. The relative age of the population in the region falls between 45-54 and 65-74 categories respectively. There has been a declining youth population over the years which is represented in the 18-24 and 25-34 categories. Information from the Under 18 category was obtained largely from two government classes at the local high school.

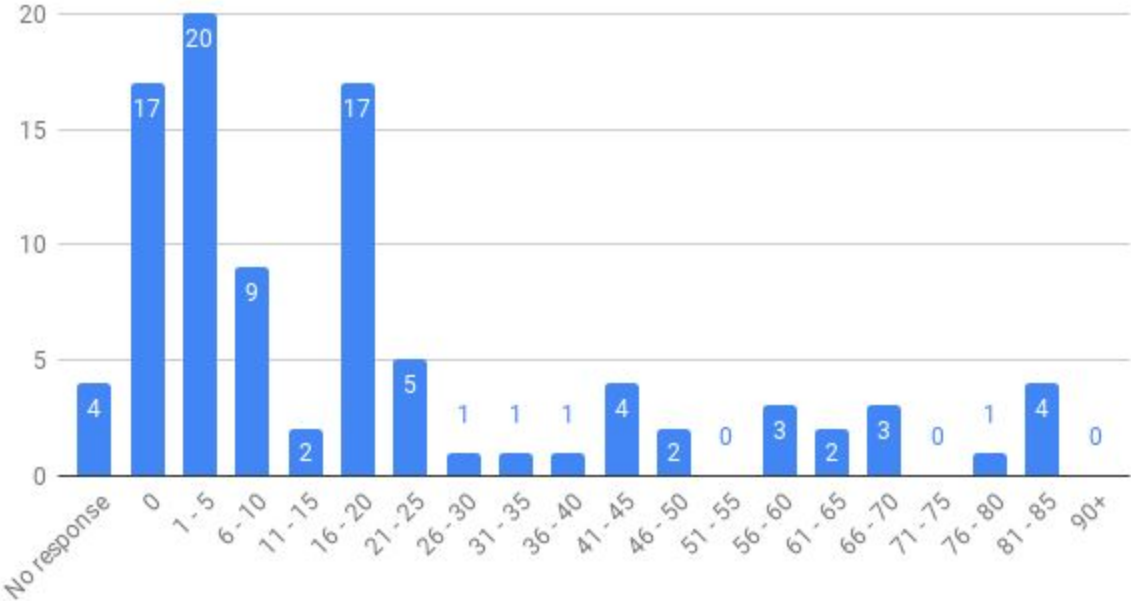
Demographics - Education



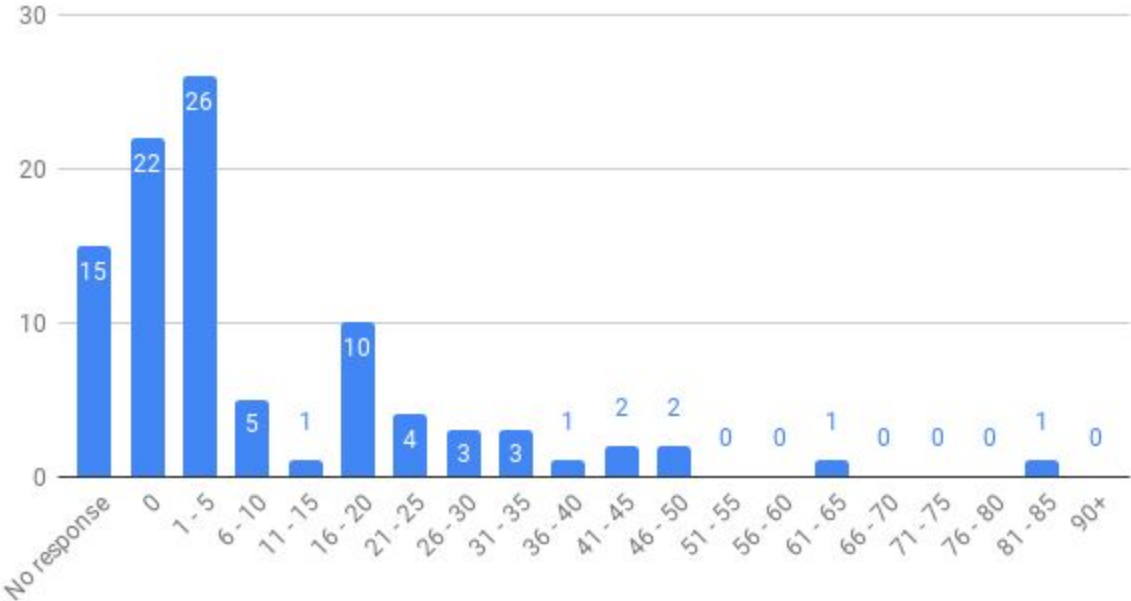
The survey sample represents all levels of education that were identified as categories. It continues to be a goal that we gain insight from those at all education levels. This goal was obtained even with a sample size of 96 participants.

Demographics - Years Lived/Visited

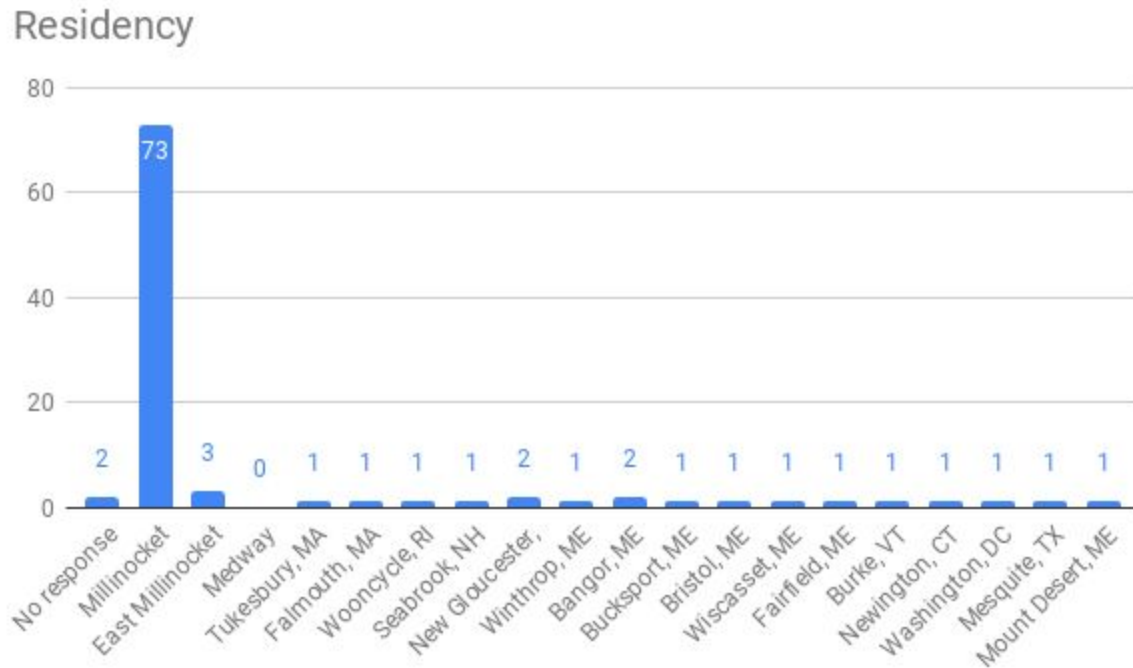
Years Lived in Millinocket



Years Visiting Millinocket



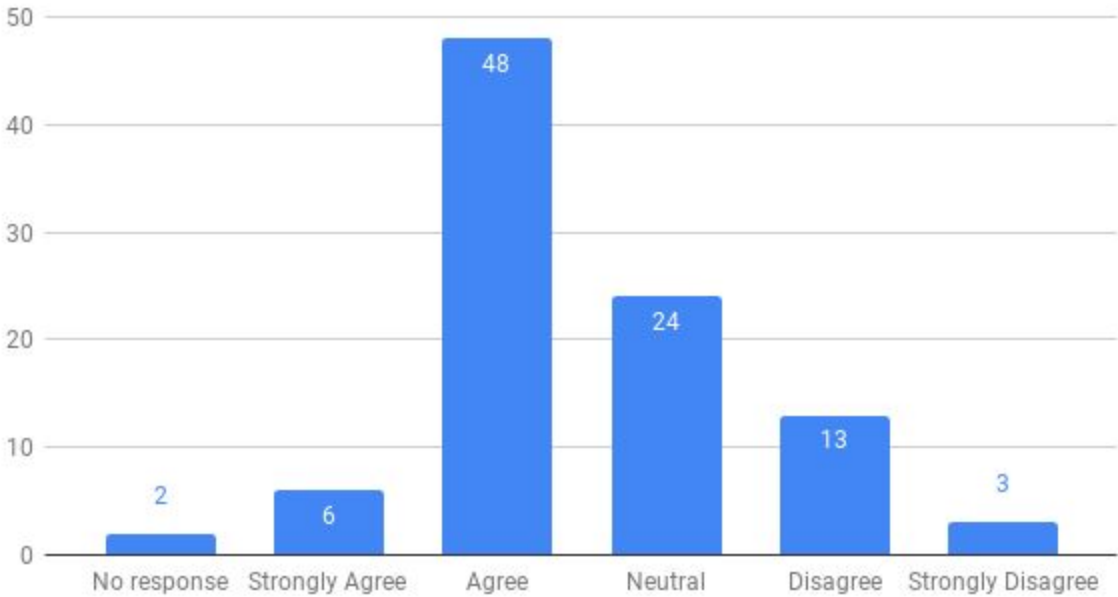
Demographics - Residency



The survey sample represents about three-fourths of participants currently living in Millinocket. About one-fourth of the data represents participants from outside of Millinocket's boundaries, or those who decided not to provide that information. Gathering perspective from those that live outside our town continues to be a goal of the survey. We were able to meet that goal with submissions by a variety of fellow Mainers from various areas of the state, as well as visitors from New England and another location within the boundaries of the United States.

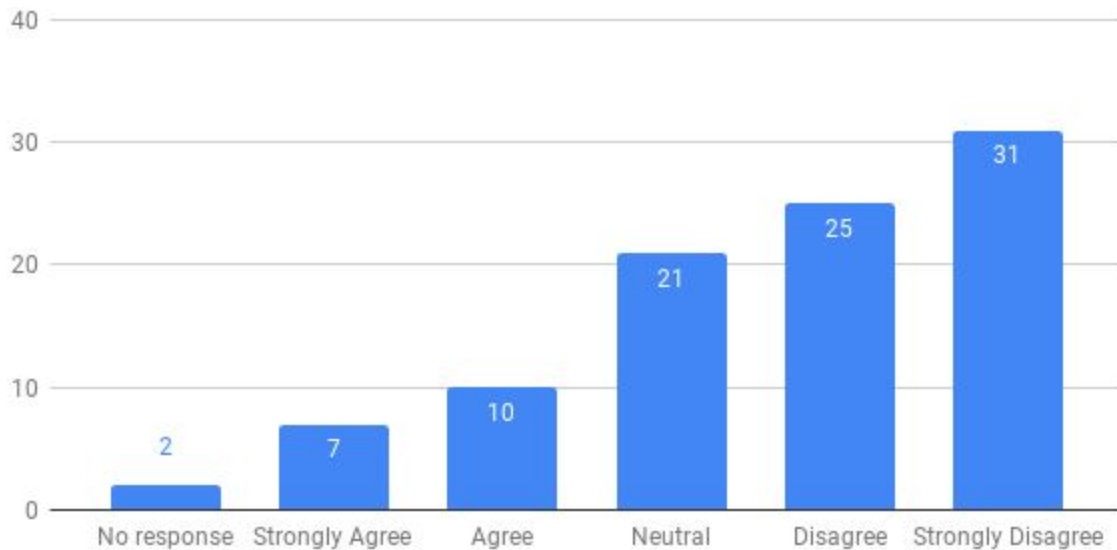
Closed Response Questions

I feel the town is making progress in economic development.



It can be inferred that over half of participants agree to some degree that there is progress in economic development within the Town of Millinocket. It can be inferred that less than one-fourth of participants disagree to some degree that there is progress in economic development within the Town of Millinocket.

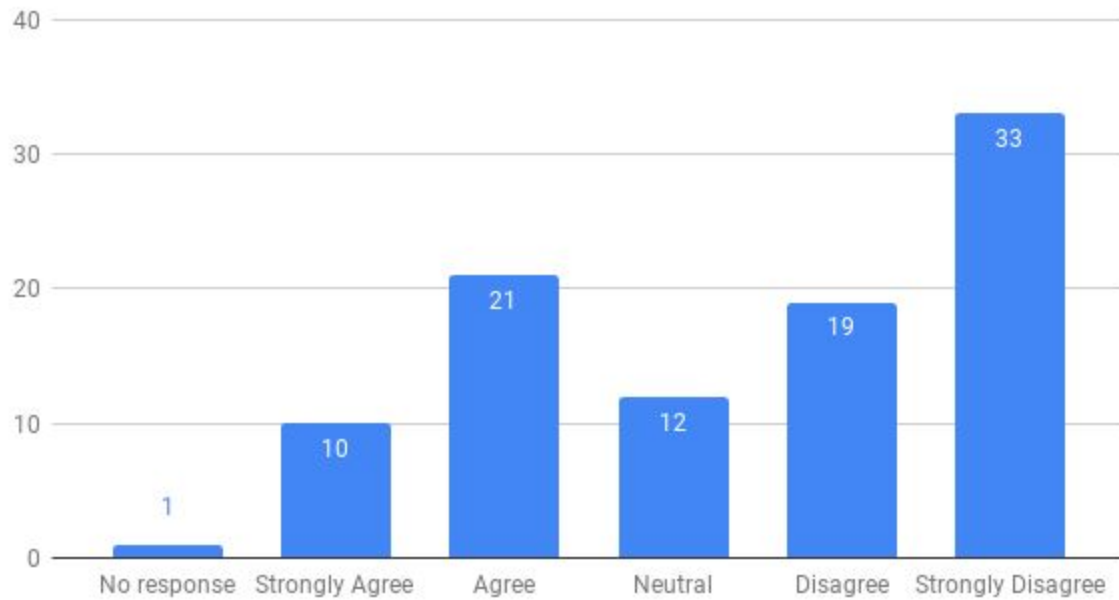
I am in need of assistance with transportation to services in town.



It can be inferred that less than one fourth of participants agree to some degree that they need assistance with transportation to services within the Town of Millinocket. It can be inferred that over half of participants disagree to some degree that need assistance with transportation to services within the Town of Millinocket.

A transportation study from Thrive Penobscot has been recently conducted and determined there is a need for transportation services within the town of Millinocket and region.

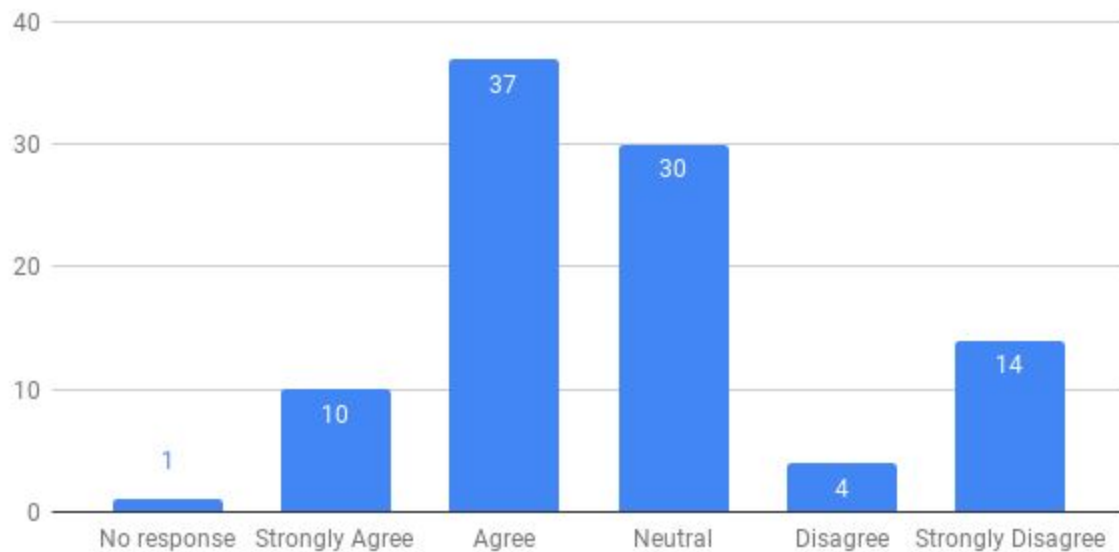
I believe the Town of Millinocket should have a curfew.



It can be inferred that one-fourth of participants agree to some degree that the Town of Millinocket should have a curfew.

It can be inferred that over half of participants disagree to some degree that a that the Town of Millinocket should have a curfew.

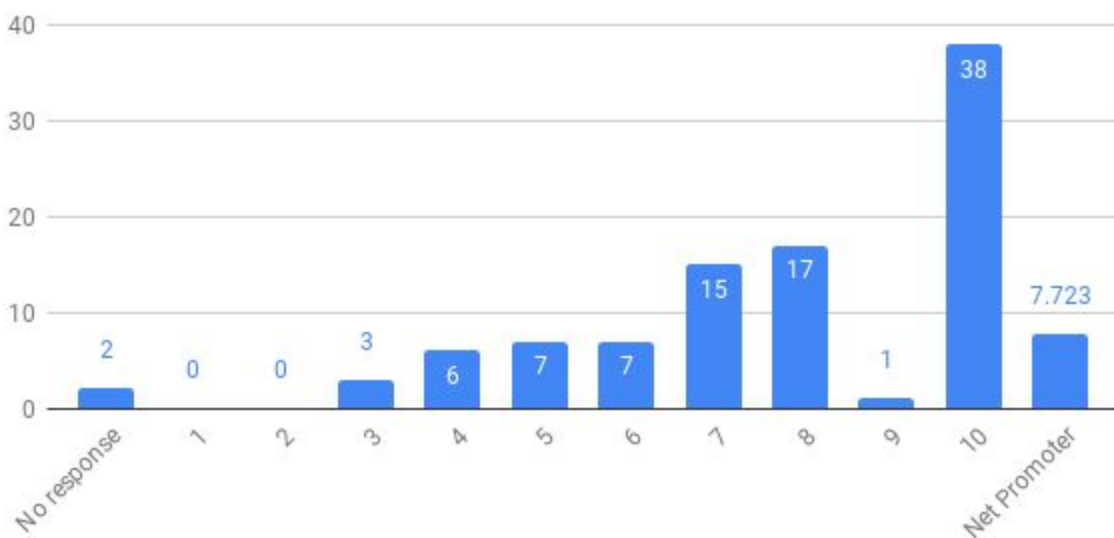
I would support the establishment of a sober house in Millinocket.



It can be inferred that over half of participants agree to some degree supporting the establishment of a sober house in the Town of Millinocket.

Net Promoter Score: 7.7

How likely are you to recommend Millinocket as a great place to live, work, or play?



Open Response Questions

Questions for this survey have been compiled through public comment, responses from previous surveys, and direction from the economic development committee.

Q1	What attracts you to want to live here or visit Millinocket?
Q2	How do you view the downtown and what businesses would you like to see downtown? Can you think of any improvements that could be made?
Q3	What do you feel is Millinocket's greatest economic need?
Q4	Would you be interested in more non-motorized trails in town?
Q5	Would you be interested in a food co-op? Do you have any interest in combining area food pantries and the public together?
Q6	Would you have a need for assistance at home for projects that you could not do on your own? We have provided some examples. Select which projects you need assistance with.
Q7	Do you see your own neighborhood improving for you and your family's lifestyle? Please give an example.
Q8	Are you planning any home improvements within the next year or two? If so, what kind of improvement will you make to your home?
Q9	When thinking of Millinocket, what would you like to see more of/less of?
Q10	What part of recreation/tourism should play in our plan for economic development?
Q11	Suggest three beautification projects to the Town of Millinocket.
Q12	Would you be willing to volunteer in the community? If so, where would you be willing to do it?

Q1: What attracts you to want to live here or visit Millinocket?

Responses

- Nature
- Too much to say!!!
- Outdoor activities
- The people in the community how welcoming everyone is.
- Baxter, the hope that economy is on the upswing
- Awesome outdoor activities and a great feeling of community.
- Community support, small town living.
- The people. The community. The love, giving, and family of this town.
- I grew up here and have friends here.
- All the fun activities at the holiday times and from the library. There is so much involvement.
- Lived here all my life. Wonderful, caring people.
- Previously it was work. Now it's home. I also enjoy the out of doors.
- Family and friends, own my home.
- Location, location, location
- I had moved away due to economic hardship and lack of employment with benefits. I now live in Bangor and work in Lincoln, but may move back eventually.
- Not only it being "The biggest small town" but the pristine wilderness that surrounds us made even better by things like the The Gear Hub and all the great things the library is doing.
- The beautiful area, recreational activities, and wonderful community
- Family
- "1. on the previous question you didn't list if 1 is good or bad
- 2. How about asking the question this way? ""What makes Millinocket an attractive place for you to live or visit?""
- Answer, relatively low crime, even our drug addicts and dealers have some semblance for life."
- The tradition of painters, Church, Hartley etc. spending time here, prompted me to purchase two cabins on Nesowadnehunk Lake, and now I spend a few days every week there as long as the Tote Road is open. (I wish it opened earlier than mid-June!)
- Recreation. Have been coming up there for a range of destinations, including BSP, fly fishing, West Branch, Big Eddy Campground, etc.
- A very private and quiet community with a very nice community of older homes. Very low in the crime community.
- The friendliness of the community.
- 4 season outdoor activities
- Affordable housing and spectacular views
- Hometown feeling, beautiful scenery
- The friendly helpful people. The country atmosphere.
- I live here because I cannot afford to move to a community that is less costly.
- Outdoor recreation

- I love the great outdoors. Don't attract too many tourists though!
- Sense of community, outdoor recreation, abundant assets to leverage
- atving. Snowmobiling. Hiking. And water activities
- The small town feeling,the woods and the people.
- Nice quiet little town
- The area surrounding the town
- I grew up here and I have many friends as well as family. Millinocket is a great place to drive through getting to other places but not much for people to do and hardly a place where someone can make a decent living, those jobs are few and taken.
- I like small towns and the great things to do in the summer and winter
- The marathon first brought me to Millinocket a year ago. The town and Baxter State Park brought me back in the summer. The town and the marathon brought me back again a couple weeks ago. I'll be back again over the summer. The town is very welcoming, which is not usually seen in small northern New England towns. The beauty and wilderness of Baxter and the new National Monument are unparalleled in the Northeast. There's so much more to explore and Millinocket is the perfect jumping off point offering a town/small city experience to go with the wilderness.
- Job
- People are caring, it is peaceful most of the time and there is wonderful recreation.
- The backyard
- Katahdin, Baxter, that small Maine town feeling.
- Friendly people, gorgeous area, low crime, and good sense of community.
- It's where I grew up.
- We visit yearly (sometimes several times a year): We are attracted by the extremely friendly people (and how much they love their community), the restaurants, cafes, great lodging, amazing recreational opportunities, the library, the shops and galleries, Baxter State Park, and now the Woods and Waters Monument is on our list! We also really like the bike path, Jerry Pond, and just walking around downtown.
- Peaceful setting, the surrounding outdoors, family ties
- Millinocket is friendly, active in a non-hectic way. It is my home.
- Not too busy.. beautiful mountain, amazing events, community always pulls together, the land of the great outdoors.
- The outdoors and the people
- returned upon retiring to be with families and enjoy outdoor activities and old friends.
- "Compact size of town
- Hospital
- Recreation
- Library
- Neighbors helping neighbors"
- The town's people and Baxter.
- Zero, you need to fix the streets to start. Then do something with all those ugly buildings on main street. Enforce lean up those code enforcement laws both for residential and businesses. Stop the politics between East Millinocket and Milinocket.
- I grew up here

- The people here are extraordinary and the school is amazing. We are excited to see what the future holds for Millinocket.
- I bought a house in millinocket this year with the hopes that the town can revive itself and the tourism would increase
- Great vacation spot. Snowmobiling in the winter. Hiking, boating in the summer.
- The wonderful people, the relaxed atmosphere, and the amazing scenery.
- The kindness in people you meet there and the beauty of the town and surrounding areas have me always wishing I lived there.
- All of the outdoor activities, the friendliness of residents and family ties
- I've always been a rural person, but need to be close to town,as I am old,and disabled.It offers everything.A great health center, shopping,dining....I could go on and on.I plan to stay for a very long time.
- Low cost of living.
- Access to Baxter, the fact that it's in a moment of reinventing itself. Our Katahdin, Visioning Process, etc.. The amazing library, it's relative walkability for a small town. Low cost of living.
- Small quiet town - can hear crickets in the summer rather than blasting music and traffic; can see the stars. I can walk to where I spend a lot of time - the library. We could afford to buy our perfect house, in a town that is perfect for us.
- Safety, isolation surrounded by beauty. Lakes and trees. The earnest effort to bring us back to the "Magic City" we can do it!
- I liked the small town family aspect. Most people in this town are very kind.
- Sports.
- Its landscape.
- Education
- Mt. Katahdin.
- The surrounding outdoors, scenery, nice quiet town.
- The location of nature and the outdoor opportunity.
- The community is together; and the schools are a great learning environment.
- How quiet it is and how old and traditional it is. Also a very good set up for a town.
- How peaceful and quiet it is plus the beauty.
- My family and friends, also the schools performing arts.
- It's fairly quiet and safe. It's also a beautiful area with access to some great nature spots.
- School environment.
- We have a great community, people who care, and beautiful scenery. It is a great place to live and be outdoors.
- I have grown up here and take pride in my school and town so I enjoy being around everyone I know.
- Family
- Well where I'm from we couldn't go outside or swim and do certain things that we can do here because it wasn't safe but I can go for walks and swim all I want here.
- The people and environment.
- I like how safe it is.
- Strong community and outdoors access.
- It's a great community.

- Small town, nice community, Baxter Park.
- The great community, the people, the mountain/park.
- The scenery.
- The Penobscot River mostly, I love whitewater kayaking.
- Millinocket being a retirement home for me. Something I can come back to.

Q2: How do you view the downtown and what businesses would you like to see downtown? Can you think of any improvements that could be made??

Responses

- store fronts and sidewalks
- Some of the store fronts are not very noticeable, for instance being here 3 years just found Good Samaritans thrift store...
- Redo sidewalks better lighting
- Downtown is not too attractive. Some properties look derelict.
- I would love to see a department store downtown
- More business, update the exteriors
- We love downtown, especially the great things the library does.
- Sad! Get rid of rundown buildings and try to get businesses into buildings are useable
- I always wanted to run a family center. Somewhere the whole family could go and play board games and such while not having to worry about supper. I just don't have the money.
- "There is absolutely no place to shop here. Retail! Reny's, Walmart, anything! So much could be done with downtown and instead it is stagnant.
- Stop allowing non-retail business on the main street.
- Make the people who have empty storefronts sell or rent or tear them down - our downtown is such an eyesore."
- Teens places. More places for our teens to get involved and work.
- Downtown is slowly being revitalized. Would like to see a coffee shop/bakery. A couple of the "eyesore" buildings need to be torn down or refurbished.
- "Clothing Outlets
- Italian Restaurant
- Reny's type of outlet
- Sports Shop"
- I see downtown as still lacking, but growing. There are still a few "eyesores" that should be taken care of.
- Although progress is slowly being made, the downtown is still shabby and uninviting. We all know about the seemingly unsolvable Rush building but several others are too. There is no identity, no character. I also found out the hard way that there is basically no affordable space for business to locate.
- The town is in desperate need of revitalization. I would like to see more
- "Anything would be welcome for businesses.
- Improvements - making progress, but it's time to fill the empty lots and tear down the last couple of run down buildings."
- See if you can get a multi-million dollar grant to create a "clean slate" for the downtown. Purchasing and recycling buildings of high needs and relocating said businesses to more favorable locations. In so executing said plan try to locate most, if not all businesses, to one side, leaving room for two way traffic, more parking and more green space.

- A lot more Art----real estate is inexpensive, compared to Rockland and Mount Desert Island. Millinocket, surrounded by uncrowded world class natural beauty, could become a mecca for artists of all types.
- Coming along. Happy to see the marathon grow. A local pub would be great.
- It's time for this town to have a large department store.
- It would be ideal to have someplace safe and entertaining for the younger generation to gather and have fun.
- "Need more buildings utilized on Penobscot Ave.
- Renys
- Bakery
- Restaurants"
- I feel helping residents fix up their homes would improve the entire town most
- better sign visibility. it took me 3 times downtown to find the police station..and the thrift store, even though I knew they were both on Penobscot and had the addresses
- Rather empty. Wendys, Burger King, Mardens, and/or another grocery store.
- "The downtown is aimed at tourists.
- I would like to see retail businesses, so that I didn't need to travel to Lincoln or further to purchase items that are of good quality. (Clothes, shoes, sundries)"
- Desolate. Until there is an economic driver it's pretty tough to ask for new business or improvements.
- A quintessential mountain town comes to mind. couple coffee and local shops
- CDBG funding for facade improvements
- Downtown is empty. Needs useful stores. Maybe a movie theater for the kids. Stores to draw the people driving through to stop and spend money
- A used furniture store would be nice
- I think that there needs to be more businesses I'm just not sure what.
- I do see improvements in progress but there is so much more that is needed to have a real downtown area. Again, Millinocket needs an Anker downtown and a draw.
- I would like to see more things to do downtown like an arcade or getting a new bowling alley
- Having only been for the marathon and for Labor Day weekend, I think a store that specializes in selling some of the crafts available at the marathon's craft fair would be a great addition to downtown, highlighting the artisans and crafters of the Katahdin region. I view downtown as a lot of unmet potential. I was excited to see the new location for the library and that the Appalachian Trail Cafe was open in the winter. The new outdoor seating at the Scootic was adorable. I think cleaning up the existing empty buildings will make them more attractive to potential buyers/leasers. I love the Blue Ox.
- "I need of more development
- Clothing stores"
- A coffee shop near the corner of Penobscot and Central would be a great asset to locals and visitors. The empty buildings need to be cleaned up and the sidewalks need to be kept clean. It looks like people don't care about their downtown.
- Room for improvement - more food options
- A Movie theater would be awesome, or something wifi friendly for remote workers.

- Fix up or tear down the rotting buildings. Would like to see a coffee shop with reasonable prices, a tourist shop with items related to the Mountain and Millinocket. A department store with clothing.
- The downtown looks like Detroit. So sad. How about getting some new buildings built in those empty lots and bringing in some real businesses. We don't need anymore souvenir shops, dollar stores and restaurants.
- We know there are buildings that need to be demolished/renovated along Penobscot Ave, but we love to see all the new vibrancy that has happened there over the past few years! My husband and I talked about where a candlepin bowling alley might go, or an old-fashioned arcade (we went to one in Madison, WI, and it was fun walking down memory lane! I played pinball for an hour!) Other ideas: indoor climbing or bouldering wall, indoor mini golf with disco balls/80's music, or other funky theme, co-working space (we created one in our town and it's amazing how popular it's been), a maker space for artists, chefs, potters, crafters, woodmakers (Millinocket seems to be chock-a-block full of creative people).
- I see a lot of improvement in the downtown area, with the exception of the Rush property. I would love to see a clothing store and/or a department store.
- I think the downtown should be filled with stores, with an anchor store. If we are to attract traffic, we need something to keep them here, particularly on rainy/snowy days.
- Stop closing everything, I know it has to be done but we have no form of entertainment.
- Department store
- return clothing store.
- "Consider closing Penobscot Ave and making downtown a pedestrian mall. Think Jackson Hole. Heaters in the street ,outside cafes, hot chocolate bars,etc.
- Millinocket really,really needs a bakery!"
- "Let tourist traps and more local small businesses.
- Improvements can be cleaning up the area around the municipal building."
- See comments above.
- Downtown needs a clothing store
- There needs to be more places for people to go. More casual dining/coffee shop options would be great. Some fun unique shops for people would be great too.
- Downtown is quaint but very dated. Needs to attract new business to revive the strip.
- Downtown is getting better. More restaurants would be good. A visitor center. With the library renting bikes and Kayaks it would be great to coordinate for visitors.
- I haven't been able to visit since 2018, so I am not sure exactly what businesses are still there, but I would love to see all vacant buildings in use.
- I know that it would probably cost big money but I always thought the town would benefit from having an LLBean outlet or something like it because generally Millinocket is one of the last townspeople drive through to get to Katahdin.
- We need a clothing store and a department store!!
- A used furniture store is only thing that I can think of,s I said it's got it all
- Testing the form.
- Bars and medical business. Demo the Rush buildings.
- Bringing more of the businesses in the strip mall area on Central Street back down to Penobscot Ave. More ethnic food restaurants would be so nice.

- Coffee shop/Cafe/Ice cream parlor. Tear down the Rush building! Paint Ferlands a nicer color.
- RENY's would be nice.
- Stores, selling clothes and shoes. No suits, this is Millinocket. People like to see, feel, try on without chancing receiving something in the mail. Costs me a little higher but no gas cost. Buy online large amounts to stock the shelves and coat hangers. Do business in town, put people to work.
- I think more practical businesses that are open more. We need ways to not have to travel to Lincoln or Bangor for household products.
- Shopping mall.
- A shopping mall and cinema.
- Shopping mall.
- More businesses in general.
- I view downtown as a place with lots of history. I would like to see more shops, and we can improve the buildings and clean them up.
- More businesses in a small town are always good. Some repairs on old buildings to attract new business owners will be good.
- Mall, Walmart, Burger King, Taco Bell, Pizza hut, Olive garden.
- Starbucks. I do think we need some more places to work, and I think there should be a safe place for LGBT youth to go.
- I don't go to those establishments often. They feel very touristy.
- A cinema could be made.
- It is like an old place. Need a cinema.
- Downtown is kind of dead, but improvements are being made.
- Downtown is kind of sad, I wish there were more shops/stores so it wouldn't look so quiet.
- I never really viewed it. Not sure. Probably.
- Well it's roads are not plowed and the pavements are rough in a lot of places so getting it plowed right and having better roads.
- Boring and more stores.
- There should be more improvements downtown.
- Downtown should be cleaned up and get rid of buildings that are unusable.
- Clothing store.
- I would like to see more things for highschoolers to do.
- Downtown is pretty empty, we could fix it up more.
- More businesses, not sure what but it needs it.

Q3: What do you feel is Millinocket's greatest economic need?

Responses

- jobs and more businesses
- More things for kids to do like Movie Theatre
- Internet and local businesses also big industry at the Mill site
- More stores
- Retail
- More year round job opportunities. It surprises us when we visit how many businesses close for the winter. Being from Texas, it was new for us.
- Jobs
- Jobs
- Retail shopping, tear down old vacant buildings.
- Jobs, retail shopping, grants for small businesses, people who are educated in growth economics, people with expertise in community building. Something other than tourism. Tourism is great, but it's not going to be enough.
- Several businesses to keep our young people here after graduation, and to bring some younger people back.
- Businesses
- Decent paying jobs with benefits.
- More space and support for small businesses. I would like to see a better use of the space where the mini golf used to be than a park, especially since we have enough parks and no available space for business. I would like to see some of the Amish buildings put there. It would allow micro businesses to locate there and it would be unique and attractive and not block the view of downtown and would allow businesses to set up in a modular way. They could grow or downsize as needed. They could rent to own at affordable prices and lease the space from whoever owns that land. It could be a mini village, a much needed alternative to the roadblock of no other available downtown space.
- Viable businesses!
- We need a business that will bring in employees from outside of Millinocket.
- Lower taxes and a more friendly environment. Down South if you buy a business in a community, and you go to the code enforcement officer, they will say, "what can I do to make you want to invest in my town." Here you are apt to be told, "I don't know why you would want to do that, your competitors in Lincoln don't have that." Or you may be told, "don't let your grass get too long."
- Don't know
- Local jobs through the "new" economy, probably tourism. I think there could be more development in eco-tourism. What they did in Costa Rica--of course, a different and much bigger place--could serve as a model or at least an inspiration. That would then help ancillary businesses like food, lodging, and retail. It might also help the housing market. The town is filled with good housing that I hope can get filled up and repopulated again.
- Re pave the streets and sidewalks.
- Retailer stores, places to shop locally for clothing and food.
- More jobs, and opportunities for the young people

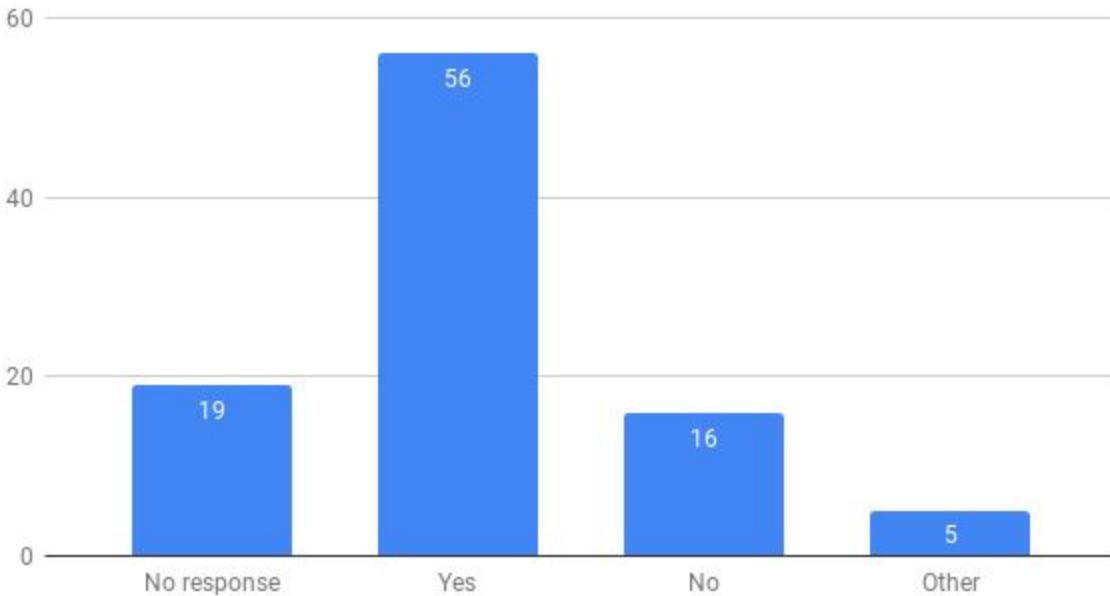
- Full time jobs with above minimum wage.
- Employment.
- Jobs
- keep the tourists out but still maintain some business. It's a happy median.
- 100 value add mfg jobs
- Businesses to help with property tax relief
- Jobs
- A tax base for the town
- "More shopping opportunities
- More jobs"
- Money spent on beautification of the downtown.
- Good jobs
- The town itself doesn't have many properties to make it definitely better in any particular area when compared to East Millinocket and surrounding towns. The only one I can think of is groceries -- wherein Hannafords seems to pull in East Millinocket citizens and be the general preferred place to shop. Some ideas: A movie theater/drive-in, the ability to issue passports at the post, a place that clearly rents snowmobiles/powersports stuff.
- More business
- Industry. Employing well trained craft.
- I suspect it is jobs, from talking to folks there.
- Jobs
- People. The Katahdin region needs a critical mass population to have an economy that doesn't involve driving to Lincoln and Bangor to spend money.
- Idk just make millinocket greener. The planet needs it, I expect more from millinocket i am disappointed
- Good paying jobs
- more specialized medical practices and personnel.
- Attracting manufacturers jobs.
- Small business and industry returning.
- Jobs... And not a manufacturer that's going to keep you up all night or produce odors.
- Larger employers
- Jobs
- Anything that would bring business and tourism
- Good paying jobs
- "I believe starting train service again would be a plus.
- A train from Boston to Millinocket, (I believe the Downeaster, originally planned to do this), or restart the train to do scenic tours."
- People. We need to bring people to town. Which is why I mentioned opening a store like LLBean in town. There's plenty of space for it and I do feel like it will greatly benefit the people that live there by providing jobs as well as more traffic in the surrounding shop fronts.
- "More good paying jobs.
- And condo style homes for our aging population"
- Jobs
- Testing the form.

- Industrial growth.
- Economic Diversity - investment in multiple industries that aren't all based on natural resource extraction. I also think acceptance of diversity and change is economically necessary for this place to grow.
- More tax money coming in, rely less on volunteers to do what should be community funded, e.g. library, beautification projects, etc.
- Another Grocery Store.
- I feel as though Millinocket needs more events like the marathon to draw in more people to our small town. Perhaps a race to the top of Katahdin.
- No idea.
- Indoor activities.
- Things for the younger generation to help keep themselves content.
- More unique businesses.
- More tourist attractions to shine a light on us.
- Marathons. Bringing people here.
- More jobs.
- More jobs.
- A big company.
- Jobs! We need jobs to keep young people in town and working/investing here.
- Not sure.
- More job opportunities to attract more people.
- More stores to attract people.
- More people, jobs, and money.
- Jobs and more families.

Q4: Would you be interested in more non-motorized trails in town?

Responses

Would you be interested in more non-motorized trails in town?



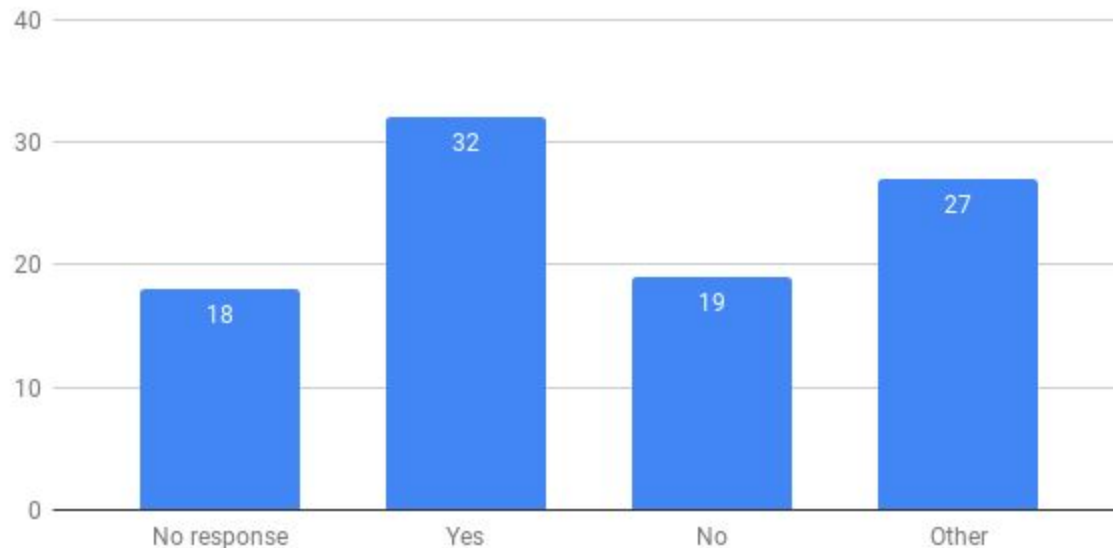
- no
- YES
- No
- No
- Yes, depending on what is proposed.
- Yes
- Yes, Millinocket is such a cool and walkable town, my wife and I would totally use them the three times a year we visit.
- No
- Yes, definitely an extensive mountain biking trail system.
- Very much so. One missing piece would be horseback riding. IMHO growing motorized use brings a price. There are many areas not safe by those wanting to enjoy our area without fear of unexpected sleds/atv's coming out of nowhere and also IMHO the ATV users seem to do a lot of damage It's also dangerous, especially on areas like the Brownville road when motorized vehicles come flying onto the road without warning or visibility. I realize we all have to share and every piece is a piece of the pie but I feel non-motorized is under-represented.
- No
- No
- Sure, as well as more motorized multi-use multi season trails also. There is good money in the 4 wheeler business.
- yes
- Yes.

- no
- Neutral
- No
- Yes
- Yes
- No.
- Yes
- yes
- yes
- No
- No
- Yes
- yes
- Yes I would
- I think this would be a great addition to the town, especially if the trails took you to some beautiful spots. The region is known for outdoor recreation. These types of trails could be used for jogging, snowshoeing, cross country skiing, and bicycling. As Millinocket solidifies its spot in the running community, they'd make a great place for runners to get some miles in while visiting the town.
- No
- We have a lot of trails but more is always going to be good.
- Yes
- Very interested
- Yes
- Yes
- The Michaud trail is great, but having it longer would be a plus!
- Yes, though I wouldn't object to motorized trails also. Activity- with maps and publicity- would help tourists as well as residents enjoy the area.
- Yes
- No
- satisfied with current trail system
- Yes
- Yes
- In town where?
- Yes
- Sure. The Michaud Trail is great and another would be great.
- Motorized non motorized all good for tourism. Let's get building that bike trail!
- Bike trails would be good. But also more trails for snowmobiles in the winter. Make town more snowmobile and ATV friendly.
- Absolutely.
- Yes
- Sure
- Yes
- Testing the form.
- No. Just fix the sidewalks and you will have non-motorized trails.

Q5: Would you be interested in a food co-op? Do you have any interest in combining area food pantries and the public together?

Responses

Would you be interested in a food co-op? Do you have any interest in combining area food pantries and the public



- not really, churches have many resources already
- No
- Sure
- Yes
- Yes
- Personally no, but it would help some families.
- Yes.
- No
- I would love it.
- No to the first question. The second question isn't clear.
- No
- Food co-up, yes. Used to be involved with one when my kids were small.
- I would need to know more
- I think both of those ideas would be beneficial.
- This is a soft spot for me. Yes, I would very much like to see a food co-op. I'm not so sure combining with area food pantries is good only because I am sorry to see the type food offered. My dream would be for the co-op to offer locally grown and organic if possible and then I would love to see it be affordable enough that the local food pantry patrons could afford it, not the other way around. It's kind of my mission in life to see people eat well and if there is some way to make it affordable it would be great. I would also like to see community gardens and some of the land Our Katahdin owns be turned into agricultural use.

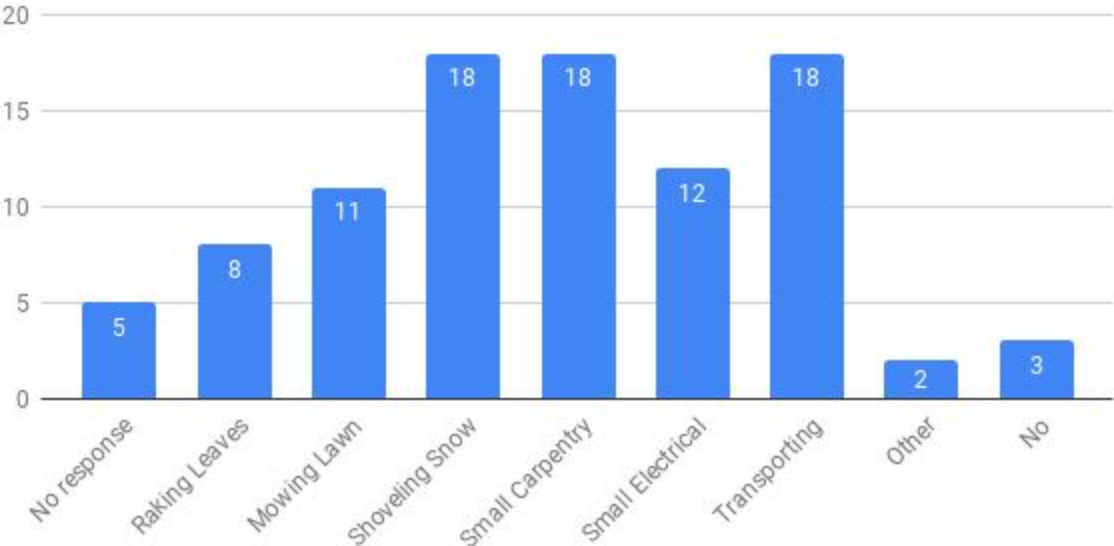
- Yed
- Maybe - look at the co-ops in Belfast and Blue Hill for inspiration.
- no, I think that combining food pantries should be up to the food pantries. They serve a great need, but unfortunately there is abuse.
- yes
- Yes.
- No this brings in the welfare and low class.
- Neutral
- Yes
- Yes
- i don't live there
- Always
- Not at my age, I would have been interested when my children were young. For a household of one to buy from a co-op is not economical.
- No thought in this as I don't live there
- no
- no
- Na
- Yes
- Yes
- I think a co OP is a great idea
- yes, great idea
- Yes
- While I do not live in the town, I could see a food co-op, especially situated near downtown, as a benefit to the locals and even to visitors. Being downtown, it would make it walkable for the inns that are right in town and the AirBnbs located in the downtown area.
- Yes to food coop, no to combining food pantries
- Peddler's Hill seems to take the air out of an argument for a food co-op. We do need a second grocery store of some kind.
- Yes
- No
- No
- Yes
- Food co-ops are great, but they need to be working in partnership with local growers.
- No
- Unsure what this means.
- There is a food pantry I thought, but yes
- Yes
- unaware of intent
- "Neutral since I am a snowbird. However a Farmers Market in the park on corner of Central and Penobscot would be a way to grab attention of park traffic. Get them out of their cars and encourage them to stroll down to the bandstand shopping on the way."
- Yes
- No

- Yes
- A co-op would be great. I don't know enough about the pantry option to have an informed opinion. A weekly farmers market in the summer would be AMAZING too.
- No idea I'm in southern Maine.
- No
- That would be a wonderful idea.
- Yes
- It would be fine by me
- Yes, that's a great idea
- Testing the form.
- Am already a member of a co-op.
- Yes! Especially if it was able to partner with a farmer's market or a CSA or something.
- Seriously? YES!! I don't know what "combining food pantries and the public" means, but combining pantries sounds like a good thing.
- Yes.
- I think that one large central food pantry would benefit the town. If announcements were made, I believe there would be many volunteers.
- Yes.
- Yes.
- That sounds perfect, a food co-op would help others and bring us together.
- Yes, food is always good to have.
- Kind of.
- Sure.
- No
- I think combining area food pantries and combining the area public together is a great idea.
- Yes.
- Yes.
- Neutral.
- Yes.
- Yes.

Q6: Would you have a need for assistance at home for projects that you could not do on your own? We have provided some examples. Select which projects you need assistance with.

Responses

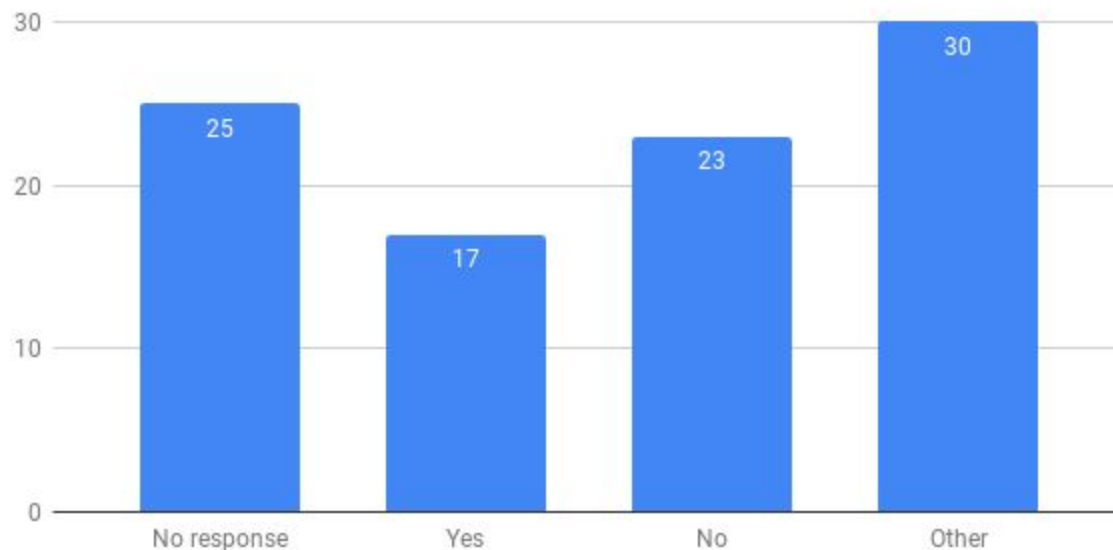
Would you have a need for assistance at home for projects that you could not do on your own?



Q7: Do you see your own neighborhood improving for you and your family's lifestyle?
Please give an example.?

Responses

Do you see your own neighborhood improving for you and your family's lifestyle?



- Need more people moving in to the town
- Yes more people are moving in and restoring houses..
- Yes a ban on trash in yard
- Yes
- Yes, property is being sold and fixed up
- Yes, in the short time we have owned our house there, we have seen other houses near us improve.
- No
- Most of my neighbors are great. But there are some that make it hard. So we stay by ourselves.
- "Do I see it improving? No. Do you mean HOW do I see it improving? or How would I like to see it improving?"
- There are drug dealers on my street. They sell meth and/or other hard drugs, not marijuana. Start there. The police know about this and have done NOTHING.
- I'd like to see better snow removal, more money for the town to plow and repair roads."
- No
- New family with 4 children moved in next door. Older gentleman moved and sold his home.
- Currently it's been remaining the same
- Not applicable

- "First I would like to answer the question above since there's no way to do it online. I very much need all of the above assistance for home projects. At one time there was something available in the area called Time Dollar where everyone banked their skills and earned time. You could iron for an hour and get a plumber for an hour in return, etc. I'm not sure what you're thinking as to how this help could be provided but Time Dollar might be one way because I would sure like to see this kind of help!
- As for my neighborhood, I don't see it changing much however some of the empty houses have been bought but they are either owned by people from out of state which is great and great that they're fixing them up and paying the taxes but they are here so seldom that it doesn't circulate money in the economy. Others were tax acquired purchases and still sit empty but that hasn't changed in the past few years."
- My neighborhood is perfect
- No
- Our neighborhood is stable.
- Not really appropriate for me to answer, since I live at Camp Phoenix.
- Yes, If the town can keep the welfare out of this town and get a working class .
- Hope that speed limits are more enforced in the neighborhood community areas/side streets.
- No, I see an overwhelmed police dept. And public works.
- Not really as most of us are just barely getting by
- no
- No.
- I see most of the houses in my neighborhood looking more worn each year. With property taxes constantly going up each year there is no way I can save money to improve my house's appearance.
- Don't live there
- I live in mass but visit the north woods frequently.
- Na
- No
- It's fine as is.
- No I don't
- I do not live here
- I see it improving slowly but the town needs to do something about the drug problem and the drug houses around town
- No
- Yes. As houses get purchased and fixed up, or torn down, the neighborhood begins to look better.
- No - very consistent
- Yes -- I'm new to the town , and maybe too optimistic, but the folks around me seem clean, helpful, and productive.
- Ubsure
- Yes, homes are getting fixed up. Junk, campers and boats, and unregistered vehicles being removed from front yards.
- Yes, as mentioned, we created a co-working space which also has an organic burrito bar restaurant built it. It's been hugely popular. Our library is also our Chamber and they

hold many wonderful events for the community throughout the year, including parades, business mixers on the sidewalks in the summer, and a Farmer's Market.

- We moved to a different neighbourhood, and found a much quieter, and better maintained neighbourhood.
- Yes. We have several homes that are owned by out-of-town residents so they stay dark most of the time. We recently had a couple of homes bought by full time residents, so our street is becoming a little more lit up. I like that.
- I like my neighborhood. Best friends next door
- No, I live next to a complete mess and the town does nothing to address this problem even after several complaints
- street lights upgraded
- Live on Morgan Lane. Younger families moving in but it certainly seems to be more of know your neighbors by site location than a close knit neighborhood in our section
- No, not really
- No
- We have been here for such a short time that things haven't changed much yet. It would be nice to see some of the abandoned houses either renovated or removed.
- I bought the "ugly" house in the neighborhood and dumped a few grand into it so I'd say my neighborhood is improving
- I see a lot of houses being bought and fixed up however there needs to be rules for maintaining your property. Still properties in disarray. Old vehicles on lot etc
- Our neighborhood is fine right now but sidewalks need to be addressed soon
- A better garden
- Testing the form.
- Yes, by tearing down the building next to me.
- I don't have a family. I see my neighborhood (downtown) as mostly the same as when I got here a year ago, and I like it.
- Yes - 7 houses surrounding us have been bought and improved since we moved in. The only negative change is someone getting a new young large nervous German Shepherd who doesn't leash him; I now avoid that side of my block.
- No
- Public works doing a great job with the streets; both plowing and maintenance.
- No, we live on New Jersey Street and we heard gunshots the other day. We feel more on edge now than ever.
- There are no improvements. The only thing that has changed is the new pipe that was installed in the new development, and all that did was make the road worse than it already was.
- I think improvements could be more common, like painting old buildings.
- Yes, because businesses are coming or starting but they always seem to go too soon.
- Kind of.
- No, not really.
- I like seeing places for small businesses to thrive, and that has been improving.
- No. The road my house is on was paved like 18 years ago and never since. Along with all the pipes getting ripped up the streets are not nice.
- Nope.

- No I don't.
- No.
- My own neighborhood has less people and houses then it did when I first moved here.
- No.

Q8: Are you planning any home improvements within the next year or two? If so, what kind of improvement will you make to your home?

Responses

- none
- Yes ...need new roof and Driveway outside Paint
- Outside painting
- Bathroom remodel
- Yes, interior and exterior upgrades
- Yes, we bought a fixer upper and intend to fix and repair the interior. We have already put on a new roof and siding and are excited to continue on the inside.
- No
- Roof and ceiling repairs
- interior paint
- Yes
- Paint?
- Front lawn needs to be reseeded. Plow damage this year. Replace flower beds in front.
- "minor upkeep on one home
- significant remodeling on a second home"
- Not applicable
- I desperately need a new garage roof. I also need outside painting and although I have the materials to repair my kitchen, affording this work remains a major issue.
- New back deck
- No
- maybe, interior refreshing
- I gutted my camps, and have added insulation, new roof, solar electric, new siding, new plumbing...long list still to do.
- All the time.
- Unsure
- Steel roofing
- We need new windows, insulation and a new roof
- none
- New rugs, New windows, more insulation, and painting/papering.
- No. See above.
- no
- no
- Na
- Yes, I am improving my home. Just bought it last summer. I am sprucing it up. Adding a bathroom and many repairs. But what I am seeing is na matter what you do, the value never goes up.
- My own electric meter
- No we rent
- Yes
- Nomore

- We will paint window sashes, paint the porch, replace steps, plant flowers, etc.
- Yes siding
- Yes. I have foundation work happening in February and will fully remodel a bathroom sometime in 2020.
- No
- Yes. Garage getting lifted and pad re-leveled.
- New electrical work, possibility some plumbing
- We will need new shingles coming up.
- No
- Paint
- replace asphalt driveway
- General upgrades.
- Did that? However don't expect to make any unnecessary improvements to property values increase.
- Yes multiple
- We are planning some landscaping.
- Hopefully a 2nd bathroom lol
- Yes. Total rehab. Which will be my 3rd rehab in town.
- Yes. We are trying to fix the front porch and add a ramp for my grandmother Sandra Trott as well as fix the roofing.
- Yes... new siding
- some painting
- Testing the form.
- When industrial development starts back up.
- No, because I am renting.
- No plans.
- No
- None.
- No home improvements.
- New kitchen.
- Make a pretty yard.
- Not really maybe fixing the roof or the deck/front porch.
- Not really.
- I need more outlets in my room.
- No
- No.
- No.
- Not sure yet.
- None.
- No.
- Replacing a wall.
- No
- No.
- No.

Q9: When thinking of Millinocket, what would you like to see more of/less of?

Responses

- jobs, new houses and new business
- Reasonable priced places for a good Breakfast!!
- Less trash in yards
- More stores
- More big business
- More retail business.
- No.
- It's hard to say since we are not there full time. We do know that the things that y'all do offer are sometimes more helpful and useful than what our big city offers.
- Less drugs/dealing! Seems to be more "implants" lately. People moving here and bringing drugs with them and selling and making a living In the tri town area. That brings with it the crime too and it's making this area "run down".
- Drugs. I think it was a mistake to legalize marijuana. Now we have too many in town that just sit home and smoke pot in front of their kids and it is wrong.
- "I would like to see less drug dealers on my street. PLEASE.
- I would like to see retail stores downtown and not other businesses such as drug rehabs.
- I would like to see less nepotism in the town office. It looks bad and makes the town seem untrustworthy.
- I would like to see more professionals attracted to Millinocket somehow. I have noticed that landlords and property owners (who are not locals) are held to zero standards regarding their properties, I see boarded up windows, wrecked lawns, etc., and some rent to a revolving door of low lifes and drug addicts. I'm not talking about VRBOs - they are fine."
- Continued improvement in our school system, especially the high school.
- "More Businesses
- More life sustainable employment opportunities for young and middle aged families
- Less minor criminal activities
- Less individuals living on the edge due to Cost of Living expenses for basic municipal services."
- More jobs and shopping And different dining opportunities. Less political bickering.
- "Less of the Hatfield's and McCoys. I know that's not fixable, only through time and generations but it gets in the way of so much progress! Basically, I would like to see more of "community", the things that make us who we are--together. People have become creative...Ben Barr's Music on the Porch, Kim Lyon's effort in expanding Art are also some things that could be expanded, community suppers like Our Katahdin did but there are many other things too.
- I would also like to see some way to have agriculture in the area and access to affordable organic food. Maybe some of these things could happen through the potential 4H group and others.
- Also, some ""attractions"", a Wild Animal Rescue, something unique to the area for both locals and those visiting, especially during inclement weather."

- Less Section 8 housing, more newer homes/townhomes being built to attract a young, WORKING, population
- "More tourism
- Less negativity"
- MORE CHILD CARE. Do you realize we have a really nice doggy day car, but NOTHING for kids. There are kids, there are parents who struggle to find licensed day care and after school care. There is NOTHING here for parents with kids. NOTHING, not 1 day care.
- A community center with business spaces for small entrepreneurs, "hygiene approved" kitchen, farmers market, music performances, art, lectures...Fall Kill Creative Works in Poughkeepsie, recently founded by Roy Budnik is an excellent example, and has already made a significant positive impact.
- Fewer empty homes and businesses. More people (within limits)
- improvements
- Kid friendly events. A safe and frequent place for them to gather and socialize.
- More small businesses, larger police dept.
- Less drug users. Drug use is rampant in this town, not meaning marijuana, hard core drugs
- More lower rents for bigger families, and faster internet/home phone. Landlords really take great care about their tenants..like making sure to salt very well when it is icy.
- Some manufacturing jobs.
- keep it off the radar! keep it wild.
- Less section 8
- Can't think of
- I think there are too many empty buildings downtown.
- more jobs and more businesses
- Drugs
- More jobs, more shopping opportunities, more community spirit and participation a healthy part
- I would like to see more people moving into the area and fixing up houses, more kids in school and the businesses to help that happen, whether industry or tourism. Would like to see a high speed internet.
- Food options
- Less empty houses. More variation in restaurants. More ATV trails.
- A new restaurant would be nice
- More marathons. Those are some fun people.
- More people visiting! :)
- More hope, and especially more young people with children. We are missing the vitality that kids bring.
- Stop pollution somehow, someone needs to clean trash around town, more events
- Plowed sidewalks
- employment opportunities increase
- Would like to see less crappy houses, business and junk in people's front lawns.
- Job opportunities

- We are really enjoying the town events. It would be nice to find more ways to get involved. It feels like the same few people plan/do everything and there are not very many (if any) opportunities to join in posted on social media or made public.
- More business! More tourism! Less TAXES!
- More marketing of the town and area for recreational purposes. Better infrastructure for recreation.
- "I would like to see more businesses on Penobscot Ave.
- Less vacant buildings."
- I would like to see more thriving businesses. I know that's hard to accomplish without the proper maintenance and money, but that's my dream for Millinocket. To be a bustling Mill Town once more.
- "More businesses so we don't have to travel to Bangor for everything. Appliance store for example
- Also we need more general practitioners not just PAs for care of our aging population!"
- Love it as is
- More stores and less drugs.
- More acceptance and diversity, more active lifestyles, more arts/cultural events. Less celebration of law enforcement/military in our town culture. More women in town council. I'm so excited about Ktaadn Arts!
- More cats, less dogs! More attention to waste reduction, especially plastic (e.g. ban single use bags, etc.) & improved recycling options (glass, PETE #1, HDPE #5, etc.)
- More band concerts. Less redneck pickup trucks with outrageously loud mufflers. They run by and wake me up at 2:00am.
- More community and large events to bring people here.
- I want to see a cinema.
- See more cinemas. Less cold.
- More trash receptacles.
- We need more of everything, and should be losing nothing.
- More outdoor opportunity.
- More businesses around the area and more get togethers.
- I would like to see more businesses and more stuff to do for children and teens.
- Entertainment area for kids like a playground. We don't need a lot of parking spots.
- I'd love to see more things done for kids and teenagers.
- I would like more easily accessible information regarding areas in path, trails, etc., and town functions.
- I would like to see less lots/houses/vacant buildings that look hazardous and unsafe.
- More people, businesses, and activities. Less drugs.
- I don't know.
- More things for teenagers to do and less people running around being unsafe.
- Less drug abusive people and more places that need to be built.
- More businesses.
- More community events.
- More community events.
- More people are coming downtown and maybe more things to do.
- I'd like to see more businesses in town.

- Less abandoned houses and poverty.
- More jobs and less negativity.

Q10: What part of recreation/tourism should play in our plan for economic development?

Responses

- all of it
- "A big one. I grew up in Fl. Tourism is our biggest income for local businesses.
- We are supposed to be nice to tourists as a child.
- Possibly free rides home from the bar....
- Home Delivery of Alcohol would keep people off the st that have already started drinking..."
- Quite a bit
- The park
- Large part
- It needs to play a significant role.
- Jobs, another grocery store.
- I think a large part. Once you draw people to Millinocket they will fall in love with it like my wife and I did. I know we just visit during the summer but everything we do while there we do locally keeping money in the community.
- Although the park, bike trails are nice, I think we should focus on bringing other things to the area as well. The marathon was a great start. why not try to bring back the carnival like when we were kids? That drew a lot of people to the area.
- It needs to be an important part, but it shouldn't be more important than other businesses.
- Recreation and tourism are already a huge part of our economy, and would love to see it continue to grow. The previously mentioned biking trails would be a huge draw. Biking is becoming a big activity across the US. Great family activity.
- High, but mixed into a more focused economic development of good paying employment ideally with benefits - which would provide incomes which would support other local businesses, providing the community and area with a degree of individual economic security.
- Anything that would encourage people to visit, and then stay.
- A piece of the pie for sure. Ironically, this is where the Hatfield's and McCoy's come into play but yet those opposed to it are often the biggest supporters of motorized activities. I think the biggest thing about recreation/tourism is that it is done in a thoughtful way to preserve what's special about our area. I think this is how things are being done.
- There's enough...we need businesses
- It should play a key part - you need to promote the park and complementary services to the park. Promote the ATV trails and link them to other trail systems
- Anything that is "value added"
- HUGE.
- none
- Summer local swim spots that are clean and maintained and open to public access. Winter sledding locations with warming huts. Wildlife Reserve/Zoo.

- Tourism is a large part, it keeps small businesses afloat.
- A major part
- I don't see how recreation/tourism is putting money in the town coffers, if this was the case our property taxes would be going down and not up. The taxpayers keep this town going and we are not getting what we should be getting for our tax dollars.
- All of it. Millinocket has it all.
- strictly a couple more hotels and coffee shops.
- Don't let it get too big
- I think it should play a big part.
- It already is doing it with snowmobiling and atvs
- it all adds to the town but a tax base is what is needed and jobs in general
- Boating, skiing, snowshoeing and snowmobiling
- In today's economic climate, recreation/tourism are the biggest industries in areas like Millinocket. The national monument will certainly help the town and the region. Millinocket, while quite the drive from Southern New England, is easily accessible, being only about 15-20 min off a major interstate highway. It's a great destination for both a weekend trip and a longer vacation, especially for those looking to enjoy the outdoors. As someone who enjoys both outdoor recreation and in-town recreation, it serves as a great location to get in some good hiking and have a nice meal and a night out for some drinks.
- A healthy and affordable part
- A major part. We have amazing assets and attractions for visitors and they pump a lot of money into our economy when they come.
- More skiing and perhaps a ski event
- Baxter and the Appalachian trail aside I think motorsports and fishing.
- A large part....the Mountain and the park are here. Let's take advantage of that
- None.
- This is huge. You are the GATEWAY to Katahdin and Woods & Water. Consider having Birding Festivals or Photography Conferences. Promote your XC ski trails more with a ski and stay package, maybe. I like the Discover Katahdin App that Anita built. It's great.
- Definitely an important part, but not the only one by far. We spent our time as a one horse town when GNP was here. We need both full time manufacturing jobs and full time recreation jobs, and lots of them.
- I don't know
- None
- secondary
- Start with gun ranges, skiing , movie theater, fishing.. How about developing East Millinocket mill property for aforementioned.
- All phases could use improvements, more ATV trails
- People come here to be outdoors, so we need to lean into that and come up with economic ways to benefit during their visit. It's great to have the outdoors for those who want to hike, hunt, snowmobile, etc but it would be nice if we had more fun shops and family-friendly restaurants so maybe the whole family will come. Also, it seems like we see a lot of people who come into town, stop off at Hannaford and/or the KG to load up with supplies but then disappear into the woods. It would be nice to have things downtown to lure them back into town a little.

- Should be on the top of your list. If your struggling to get the businesses tourism is 2nd best
- Snowmobiling, ATV, Hiking, Biking
- "Not everyone that visits has a snowmobile, jet ski, and/ or boat, skis, etc, but would probably love to do one, or all of these activities.
- Make rentals available."
- Opening an outdoor gear store in the heart of Millinocket that we advertise to people visiting and living in town.
- It should always play a part but business and sustainable jobs are most important.
- 70-80percent
- None, because there is no recreation inside the town limits.
- A large role. Very important.
- Enough to bring in needed money but not so much that there's bumper-to-bumper traffic or noise from motorcycles and snowmobiles.
- Auto bus trips and airplane flights over our beautiful lakes and mountains. Then dinner at the great eating places, Scootic/Ruthies, many more.
- The mountain needs to be involved more. I think a race to the top would draw many hikers to our town.
- A cinema.
- The marathon is a great example, so activities like that.
- The nature around us and the mountain.
- I'm not sure.
- I don't know.
- Towns history.
- I don't know.
- None.
- Continuing the marathon, more attractions like this.
- The river and outdoors!
- Historical tours.

Q11: Suggest three beautification projects to the Town of Millinocket?

Responses

- side walks, paving and store fronts
- Some kind of evergreen plants like Blue Spruce pine or smaller Native evergreen Plants...
- Side walks, lights on streets downtown
- Paint the main street buildings, a park/ town green
- I am drawing a blank on this one.
- Tearing down run down buildings downtown and around the greater area. Cleaning up junk year across from the dump entrance!
- "Do something about the streets, they are terrible.
- Plant trees.
- The empty lot on the corner of Central St. and Penobscot Ave.
- Clean up the storefronts downtown."
- "Demolish or completely refurbish the old, rundown buildings on Main Street
- Town makes it mandatory for yard cleanups/unregistered vehicles and junk. Also, empty homes with For Sale signs should have to keep the lawns mowed in the summer.
- Sidewalks are in rough shape. Hard to walk with the ruts and roots."
- Completion of the park proposed where Newberry's was. Upkeep of existing parks, and fun interactive murals to enhance existing art culture.
- Penobscot Ave, Penobscot Ave, Penobscot Ave!!!! Might be difficult to do but even if the facades were improved. Playing up the history/identity might be more expensive but even bright primary colors, murals where possible. With the exception of the healthcare buildings, as discovered by Woods & Waters and Our Katahdin in the old Miller Bldg., there is a lot of history and architecture that's hidden behind 1950 facades. Some examples of charm and character are Cloud Croft, NM which is similar in size to our town but it shouts identity and charm. There are many other examples whose names escape me. Many years ago there were grants that helped with some revitalization such as the sidewalks, street lights, etc., hopefully there will be some still available and business owners who are willing.
- "1. Downtown
- 2. Mill site
- 3. ?"
- Fill the empty lots on Penobscot Ave. Tear down the Rush building on Penobscot Ave - and those are two good starts!
- see main street comments
- none has been happening
- "1. Jerry pond, beach cleanup and ability to minimize leeches in the water.
- 2. River swimming access for young and older generations with picnic areas.
- 3. Local businesses keep lots cleaned and maintained along with fresh paint on buildings."
- Penobscot Ave. clean up abandoned useless buildings, refurbish and rent (for a reasonable amount) existing buildings.

- Helping people afford the materials to improve their homes, ie. Paint. Clean up the stream, there is so much trash, glass and metal all along the stream banks and underwater. Improve the sidewalk.
- Are these beautification programs benefiting the tax paying residents of the town or just more ways to make tourists think this is a "pretty little piece of Maine" so they will come back? The business owners are the minority in town, but they are the ones being catered to.
- Fresh facades on the Main Street buildings. Beyond that , I'm not sure
- coffee shops, weed store and additional RV/hotel.
- Need an attraction early spring. Cherry blossom trees along 157?
- More activities for the kids. Cleaning up the town empty buildings
- Tear down the dilapidated buildings on Main Street, give tifs to businesses that want to locate in town, encourage business to come to town
- pave the town if monies are there, hanging baskets and flowers,
- The new park could use some benches and trees and maybe a walk way. Upgrading the parks for the kids
- "1. Spruce up Penobscot Ave. Even some paint on some of the empty buildings would make it more attractive to repeat visitors.
- 2. Clean up the park along the river.
- 3."
- Get rid of run down buildings on the main street
- Clean up and paint downtown properties. Clean downtown streets. Plant trees downtown.
- Better job decorating town Christmas tree - restore dilapidated buildings
- More/larger seasonal displays and presentations in the town. Keeping the roads paved, painted, and free of potholes. Reduction in visible power-lines.
- Fix up and paint the derelict buildings in town
- Just one. Fix the frost heaved storm/sewer drains and pave the streets.
- Demolish some of the ramshackle buildings on Penobscot and make green spaces in the absence of building investors. Create a beautiful big artist's sign "Welcome to Millinocket" on the main artery in. Create a space with a summer garden walk with gnome homes and birdhouses and butterfly gardens. In the winter, it could be a "snowman's garden" with ongoing winter carnival-like snow sculptures or ice sculptures. Do you have an outdoor ice rink? That could be central to a winter garden. :)
- "- tear down the Rush buildings on Penobscot Avenue
- -Encourage home decoration- flowers, landscaping, Seasonal decorations, etc.
- - light up all the trees in Veterans Memorial Park for the Christmas season. East does this on the strip of land next to the road into town and it is striking."
- It looks great right now. Work on the bigger picture
- None, the town needs to address more important issues first like hiring more people to maintain the town like mowing and snowplowing
- remove or renovate vacant buildings on downtown area
- "Murals on buildings
- Plaques on historic buildings
- Fiberglass scupper completions...ala Belfast, Maine Bears, Rocklands lobsters along with LOTS of publicity.

- Clean up the crappy business properties, common sense, why are you asking such an obvious question.
- Downtown buildings in disrepair need to be torn down
- "Benches and trees and/or flowers downtown to encourage people to linger.
- Renovation or removal of abandoned houses (especially those on Central St)
- Enforceable ordinances to"
- Downtown! Get homeowners happy to care for their properties.
- Clean up residential properties. Improve old Mill Area.
- "As I stated, I haven't been there for a while, but I did notice a few buildings that could certainly use a facelift.
- Some of these are beautiful old buildings, that would look amazing if they were renovated.
- At this time I can only suggest this one."
- "A mural, painted by Maine Artists with the help of local school kids, so as they grow up they can remember that they had a part in creating something beautiful that will be seen by anyone passing by it.
- A community garden (not sure if you have one) that is worked on by anyone able to do so. Anything that grows is shared between those that put in the work.
- Fix the buildings along Main Street so they at least look nice on the outside. One day, someone will buy the space and it will always be better to have it look nice."
- "Improve the vacant lot on the corner of main st. Add flowers, trees, seating...
- Monitor the path for damage caused by misuse
- New bright Christmas lights"
- The work being done on Penobscot look good
- Municipal building, Katahdin Avenue, Central Street.
- Tear down Rush building, Paint Ferlands, Large welcoming sign/sculpture at Peddlers' Hill (wood).
- Refurbish abandoned houses, invite retirees, from all over. Sell houses for the cost of refurbishing and back taxes. Will have a new tax only higher.
- Downtown needs new paint. It looks sad. Community garden. Zero waste products.
- Renewed downtown buildings, roads.
- Repaint downtown and open more tiny shops.
- Trails, Mountain, Fix up the Maine Street.
- I don't know.
- Cleaning up the area where the bowling alley was, maybe turning it into something, fix some of the bad looking vacant buildings on main street fixing the little Italy playground.
- A statue downtown of a log driver.
- I don't know.
- Yes.
- Tear down the old coffee shop downtown.
- I don't know.

Q12: Would you be willing to volunteer in the community? If so, where would you be willing to do it?

Responses

- Work at church thrift store
- Yes if in town
- The town library
- It depends in what is available
- When we get to a point where we can stay longer , we would love to volunteer, until then we are of no help.
- Yes. Wherever needed
- I'm already volunteering.
- I do and will.
- Yes. Almost any place.
- Yes, I volunteer for the board of directors for Millinocket Memorial Library, but would love to volunteer for summer events.
- Presently contemplating 4H and the new Recovery Center, possibly more (like a possible food co op) if my old body can cooperate!
- I always volunteer
- Yes! Anywhere - what are the needs?
- have been for years
- Yes. Where my abilities and weather conditions allow.
- "Yes
- Where needed"
- Yes. Helping people paint their homes, helping to clean up the waterways
- Not for tourism.
- Yes, Baxter State Park.
- Yes, I would be willing to volunteer. I am a master plumber and overall a very handy person. I don't live there year round. But come up often
- O would but have mobility problems
- yes and anything
- Yes
- Yes. Perhaps in promoting events
- Whatever needs to be done.
- Yes wherever is needed
- Sure. I work from home and am free most evenings. Don't really know where.
- Yes
- No not yet.
- We are not in the community on a regular basis, but we are always willing to donate funds.
- - Lets see the options.
- I mean sure! Wherever
- No
- I am a snowbird only available in summer
- No, did that .. Will not work for free..

- Yes
- Yes. I would love to be more involved. I don't know where the needs are so I wouldn't know where to start.
- Live to far away
- Would be happy to help when I am up there. Manual labor. Painting.
- Sadly, I no longer live there.
- I would be willing to volunteer in the community between June-September. I would volunteer anywhere.
- Yes
- I used to volunteer, but disabled now.
- I am already volunteering now, I want to be paid.
- I do volunteer here already at the high school, for Thrive Penobscot staff, for Ktaadn Arts.
- I already do - at the library; would be willing to do more for a food co-op.
- Forget it! Have a very bad back.
- Yes. Food pantry, large community events, beautification of downtown.
- Maybe the library.
- Yes, and very much yes.
- Cleaning trash and helping keep a clean area.
- Yes, dinners setting up and cleaning up. Cleaning the town like trash on the roads.
- Maybe
- Yes!
- I would be willing given circumstances of someone I'm comfortable with going with me.
- I would be willing to volunteer and help in anything.
- Helping when asked.
- Yes, anywhere.
- At the nursing home.
- Yes.
- Yes, I already have and I do it for younger kids.

General Response Forum

Forum: This section is dedicated as an open forum to the Town of Millinocket. Feel free to share any thoughts you have. If you have a question that you would like to be considered for the next survey, please share it here.

Responses

- As an outsider, we follow Millinocket and some of the area businesses on social media and are excited to see the progress made since we bought our house a couple years ago and can see the hard work being done to continue the improvements.
- Seek businesses that will enhance our community opposed to those that will detract.
- "When you ask how likely you are... you need to ask WHY. Otherwise you have no data.
- Get some help with writing your questions, for instance some of them make no sense or aren't clear like: Do you have any interest in combining area food pantries and the public together? and what is a sober house?
- This sentence isn't even grammatically correct: What part of recreation/tourism should play in our plan for economic development?
- I don't mean to be negative, but really? It seems like this is always thrown together and we never see any response or results from what information we provide. Do I see improvements in Millinocket? Yes. Do I think it's because the town has taken steps to achieve this? No, mostly it is not due to any action the town has taken. Like the Library, people make it happen despite the town not because of it.
- Provide some grants for small business start ups. Clean up downtown. Crack down on the drugs in this town.
- I realize this is a tough suggestion, and I certainly do not know the answer, nor am I making any judgements. All the property taxes that are delinquent is a big part of the town's financial issues. We need to find a way for the home owners to start paying these back taxes, i.e., payment plan?
- This pretty much covered it for now but thank you for all your work and dedication!
- I've said this a thousand times, turn the old mill site into a college campus extension. It would attract a young, energetic population, AND all the parents/friends who come to visit
- Child care and after school care. Lower taxes
- As a Mainer who doesn't live in Millinocket but who spends time there and loves it, I just wanted to say that I have without fail found the people of Millinocket to be kind, open, welcoming, funny, helpful, and good at what they do. As just one example, I've had car problems twice over the decades while I was in Millinocket. Every single person was willing to help me, even people I didn't ask but who just happened to come by while my hood was up. Thank you Millinocket! I really want to see you thrive.
- wake up the town counsel and get the old " mill workers" off the counsel bring some new employment to this town.
- We need to clean up the areas drug related problems, parents need to be held accountable for their children's actions , in turn we need to give direction and live skills to the young adults of this town.
- How many people are in need of help with their back town taxes and sewer bills

- We come for race weekend and have a good time and feel welcome
- I ran the half marathon and it was awesome!
- It's a wonderful little town
- I feel the curfew is a bit much but there is nothing wrong with 16 and under, There is nothing wrong with keeping kids safe and out of trouble, I have not thought about this all much, I would strongly like jobs to come to Millinocket and a tax base, Millinocket will always be special and always be home
- Millinocket is an absolutely lovely town. The people are welcoming. The recreation is amazing. If there is a good resource for visitors to the town that suggests ways in which we can give back to the local community, that would be excellent. When we visit any area, we like to support the locals in any way we can. This starts with local businesses and continues on to even drinking local beer when we can. This is no different in Millinocket, where we'd like to help the community even more as the town has come to hold a warm place in our hearts.
- We are moving in the right direction - keep the momentum going
- I'm happy with our progress. For the first time we seem to be taking our future in our own hands, rather than wait for some big business to come and rescue us. It will not go wrong with so many having their shoulder to the wheel.
- There seem to be a lot of houses that need a "spruce" up, and my guess is there may be a lot of people who have extra paint/supplies and/or building materials just lying around. It would be great if we could coordinate a spot where people can drop off extras, and others can get what they need to fix up their house for free. Maybe businesses would even donate mis-mixed paint and such.
- It is my opinion that the town is on the cusp of a resurgence. I believe that the best way to accomplish this is with the redevelopment of the Mill Site and some efforts in marketing and infrastructure for recreational purposes . The town lies on the footstep of one of the most beautiful areas of the country. Time to take advantage of it.
- "I am hoping to make a visit there next summer.
- I am looking forward to seeing some of the changes that have already been made.
- I really feel Millinocket has made a lot of progress."
- "New Question:
- What do you want Millinocket's legacy to be? Or rather, what's one word you would use to describe Millinocket?"
- Stop wasting money and let the Library stand on its own!
- "I looked at the survey that you offered and found that a lot of them are really for people who continue to live there, not people who grew up there. I didn't feel right filling in the entire survey because I grew up there and have not lived there since I was 18 years old in 1967. However, I'd like to offer some things that could have helped my elderly mother, who lived there until a little over 4 years ago. She owned a home on Winter St and lived independently until that time.
- The reason she had to move was because of dementia. But, even with dementia, she was very independent. Unfortunately, I live in Bangor with my husband, and my two brothers live in other distant towns. So, we couldn't be regular support to her so she could stay at home. She was born and raised and then raised her own family with my father in

Millinocket. It was all she ever knew. She lived here in Bangor at an assisted living facility her last 4 years of life. She was not happy about that. She passed just this past April.

- I have often thought that if there were better services for the elderly in Millinocket, she could have stayed in her own home. We checked on her every few weeks and I called all the time, but she needed more than that.
- I checked with the social worker at MRH and my mother's doctors office for available services. She needed some sort of reliable and affordable transportation for doctor's appointments, Church, Meals for me, shopping, etc, because her license was revoked because of dementia. She needed regular, meaning at least daily check ins by someone to see that she bought and took her medicines, and had food to eat at home. This was where there were no available services that I could find. We could not find services for her so she could stay at home so the only alternatives were moving in with me (which she did not want to do) or moving to assisted living.
- These services could have helped to keep my mother home, where she wanted to be. So when asked on the survey what kind of services or businesses I would like to see in Millinocket, it comes to mind that reliable and affordable public transportation services for those who cannot or do not drive, and also reliable elder assistance services in the community would be welcomed and used a great deal. These two services could keep a lot of people in their homes when otherwise they would need to be in communal living.
- I hope my suggestions help to guide you in your efforts to address the needs of the elderly in Millinocket. A large part of your population falls into that category and I know each and every one of them would be just as upset as my mother was to be uprooted in their old age just because the needed services were not in place.
- Thank you for listening. Kathy Day RN, Gerry McCleary's daughter."
- I think the town should consider restoring some operational funding to the library. It's a vital community resource that contributes to the health of this community immensely. We don't have a community center here, but the library is an all-ages gathering place where people can learn , grow, and empower themselves, so let's invest in it, because it can't be sustained in the long run with only one staff member. Also, I think you should add questions about race and income to this survey. I think the town's homogeneity is often assumed, which doesn't allow us to capture and support the diversity that does exist here.
- The town definitely needs more senior housing. Every unit should be four rooms and have washer and dryer hookups.
- For our limited resources, we have a top notch public service people and fire and police people.
- Race the mountain. I believe if we created a hiking race or some sort of large community/public idea, I think it would draw people to our town. This event could be during the fourth of July week as another activity.
- I believe Millinocket and East Millinocket should stop being stubborn and combine schools. It would benefit the students, teachers, and the sports teams would be amazing.

Summary Analysis

This is the third version of an annual survey research project conducted by the Town of Millinocket. A total of 96 entries are reflected in this report. This survey was established to open lines of communication and gain insight on several viewpoints toward the town from its residents, seasonal-residents, business owners, and visitors. Responses range from many positive comments toward the town's progress in economic development, some negative comments toward the town's progress in economic development, many suggestions for the town in operations and fiscal management, as well as several ideas to implement for redeveloping the area.

Information gathered in this public report can be viewed by several different agencies whether it be personal, business, or governmental — to provide insight towards personal beliefs and how it reflects towards the reviewer, to provide businesses with insight to suggested new businesses and/or desire of those seeking emerging markets in the area, to provide guidance to organizations profit/non-profit from the public perspective that assist in the redevelopment of the town and region. This summary is reflective of the data present in report findings. This is not reflective of one's own interpretation that may be perceived from any findings.

Upon review, the Economic Development Committee will incorporate information from this report into aspects of their work. Any suggestions for the next annual survey such as questions and format or adjustments to reporting are welcome. We thank those who have taken time out of their schedules to provide input to this survey.